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AUG 26 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

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Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-16, 24-31, and 33-43 are pending; Claims 40-42 are amended; and Claim 43 is newly added. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by this amendment.

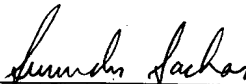
Applicants thank Examiner Nguyen for the interview granted Applicants' representative on August 13, 2003. During the interview, it was agreed that the amendment to Claim 2 overcomes the outstanding rejections.

Additionally, with regard to the clarification of the "000-1 surface," Applicants have submitted herewith a reference entitled "Reconstructions of GaN (0001) and (000-1) Surfaces: Ga-rich Metallic Structures." As this publication indicates, the 000-1 surface would be well-known to one of ordinary skill in the art. It is also respectfully submitted that the recitation of the 000-1 surface in Claim 2 does not represent the introduction of new matter, as this feature was previously recited in canceled Claims 17-20, which were originally filed with the application.

Accordingly, it is believed that no issues remain outstanding, and that this case is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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